

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-06 NEA-06 AF-04 EUR-08 EA-06

PM-03 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 OES-02 SP-02 INR-05

PRS-01 DODE-00 L-01 IO-03 INRE-00 SSO-00 /070 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8206

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

S E C R E T CARACAS 3484

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG VE

SUBJ: VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT POSITION FOR A CONSUMER/PRODUCER

CONFERENCE - UPDATE REPORT

REF: A. STATE 67363 B. STATE 58837 C. CARACAS 3230

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1. MINISTER OF STATE MANSUEL PEREZ GUERRERO DEPARTED CARACAS

MARCH 31 FOR PARIS. HE IS TRAVELING ALONE. HE WILL MEET IN PARIS APRIL 4-6 WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALGERIA, SAUDI ARABIA, IRAN, ZAIRE, BRAZIL AND INDIA FOR PRE-PRECON STRATEGY SESSION. MINISTER PEREZ GUERRERO WANTED TO MEET WITH THIS GROUP IN GENEVA. HE RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM SAUDI ARABIAN MINISTER YAMANI ON MARCH 30 PROPOSING THAT GROUP MEET IN BEIRUT. VENEZUELAN SPECULATE THAT YAMANI DID NOT WANT TO TRAVEL TOO FAR FROM HOME AT THIS MOMENT. BRAZIL PROPOSED THAT MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN PARIS, AND ALL COUNTRIES APPARENTLY AGREED TO THIS.

2. MINISTER PEREZ GUERRERO HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH TOTAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR VENEZUELAN PARTICIPATION IN PREPCON. HE ALSO APPEARS TO BE CANDIDATE TO BE SPOKESMAN FOR PRODUCER/LDC GROUP. FROM HIS YEARS AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF UNCTAD, HE IS WELL KNOWN INTERNATIONALLY TO PRODUCER/LDC GROUP AND MAY BE ABLE TO COUNT ON THEIR SUPPORT TO MAKE HIM SPOKESMAN AT PREPCOM.

3. VENEZUELAN SAY THAT YAMANI WILL NOT ATTEND PRE-PREPCON OR PREPCON MEETINGS. ALSO, ALTHOUGH IT IS KNOWN THAT IEA HAS BEEN INVITED TO SEND OBSERVER, VENEZUELAN SAY THAT OPEC WILL PROBABLY NOT SEND OBSERVER. REASONING FOR NOT SENDING OPEC OBSERVER WOULD BE TO EMPHASIZE THAT PREPCON AND SUBSEQUENT CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE ARE NOT INTENDED TO DEAL WITH OIL QUESTION EXCLUSIVELY, BUT RATHER WITH ALL ISSUES LISTED IN THE SOLEMN DECLARATION OF THE ALGIERS SUMMIT.

4. MINISTER PEREZ GUERRERO WILL BE JOINED IN PARIS BY REYNALDO FIGUEREDO, PRESIDENT OF THE FOREIGN COMMERCE INSTITUTE (AND RECENT DELEGATE TO THE DAKAR LDC MEETING), AND ALBERTO FLORES, OPEC GOVERNOR AND DIRECTOR OF PETROLEUM ECONOMICS IN MINISTRY OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS. FLORES IS A REGULAR VENEZUELAN DELEGATE TO OPEC MEETINGS. MINISTER OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS VALENTIN HERNANDEZ WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN PARIS MEETINGS, AS HE WILL BE OTHERWISE ENGAGED IN OIL NATIONALIZATION NEGOTIATIONS HERE IN CARACAS.

5. IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ON VENEZUELAN POSITION HERE IN CARACAS PRIOR TO PARIS PREPCON, AS PEREZ GUERRERO WILL BE FORMULATING THIS POLICY HENCEFORTH RIGHT IN PARIS.

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